

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Bohemia Avenue and Third Street, south west corner

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake City

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☒ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Trinity M.E. Church

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Bohemia Avenue and Third Street

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake City

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21915

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE, Cecil County Courthouse
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: JAD No. 18

Folio #: 355

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland 21921

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED
<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED

CHECK ONE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Trinity Church is one of the three churches in the Historic District of Chesapeake City. It is a granite Victorian Gothic style building constructed in 1889. It is an L-plan building with one gable facing Bohemia and the other Third Street. In the angle formed by the 'L' is a tall tower having an open bellfry and octagonal spire.

The granite walls are made of irregular size rough-cut blocks with convex joints. Above the crawl space grills are segmental brick arches, the grills being a floral pattern of cast iron. There is neither belt course nor water table, however, above each of the lancet arched windows is an arch of brick. Both gables are identical and have a large three-part window flanked by a smaller window. In the apex is a lunette. The south side of the building has five smaller windows. The 'A' roof has an overhanging eave with typical exposed and shaped rafters and purlins. Slate covers the roof which is laid with two lines of imbricated slates, four courses deep, between a nearly equal spacing of straight edge slate. This feature is very similar to the Brady-Rees House except for the number of courses.

On both faces of the tower is a double door beneath a stain glass lancet arch transom. Above the transom is a rose window. At the level of the rose window the tower has recessed brick at the corners. Above the granite walls is a partly open bellfry with turrets rising from the corners and an open gallery of six lancet arch spaces. Its cornice has applied beads attached to the fascia. The entire spire is covered with imbricated slates, the top of which has a tin cap from which rises a weathervane.

The building is very neatly maintained and is one of the chief focal points in the District. On the west side of the structure a parish hall was constructed in 1957, part of which is made of the same type granite, a slate colored asphalt roof and awning windows. The hall faces Third and George Streets.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1889

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Trinity Church is important on two counts. It is an important piece of architecture in this town of essentially vernacular residences. The Gothic style and granite material are unique in the town and create a focal point emphasized by its corner location and vertical spire. As the seat of Methodism in Chesapeake City, it is also of importance.

In 1846, Richard and Mary Sophia Bayard granted land for the building of a Methodist Church to the trustees, Joseph Bryan, a merchant, Daniel Karsner, William C. Crow, John Peach, William P. Cropper, canal collector, John Burbage, a merchant, and John Adams. A frame building was put up at that time to serve the congregation that had been going to Bethel for services. Bishop Asbury is supposed to have held services in the old frame church. As late as 1874, people were brought to trial in the church for "Habitual neglect of the means of grace," (not attending church) and were expelled. The church society was incorporated in the January session, 1868, Chapter 471, section 156-168, by the name, "The Trustees of the Trinity Methodist Episcopa Church of Chesapeake City".

The trustees in 1889, when the granite church was built were, James Coleman, Harry Pierce, Joseph Brooks, Thomas A. Rees, Irving G. Griffith, Jacob Metz, Waitman Smithers, William H. Wates, and Levi S. Jenness.

Services have been held continuously since the church's founding. Some ministers served longer than others. Some are remembered more than others. Among some of the memorable ministers have been the Reverend Robert Whitlock who helped build the addition in 1957; Reverend William Poole, an especially popular minister, and the Reverend Beckwith, a personable man in the pulpit and in the community. The first minister of record was John Smith in 1845, a native of the Elkton area and a man of property. He bought several parcels of land from the Bayards in the new town which he sold to newcomers at a profit. He also owned a farm south of town.

The present minister, Gary W. Trail, lives in the parsonage on West Third Street. He is an enthusiastic young man filled with initiative who serves Trinity Methodist Church and also conducts services in the old Presbyterian church on the north side of the Canal.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne & Katherine Wein

April, 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

South Chesapeake City Historic District Commission

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o Town Council of Chesapeake City

(301) 885-5298

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Chesapeake City

Maryland 21915

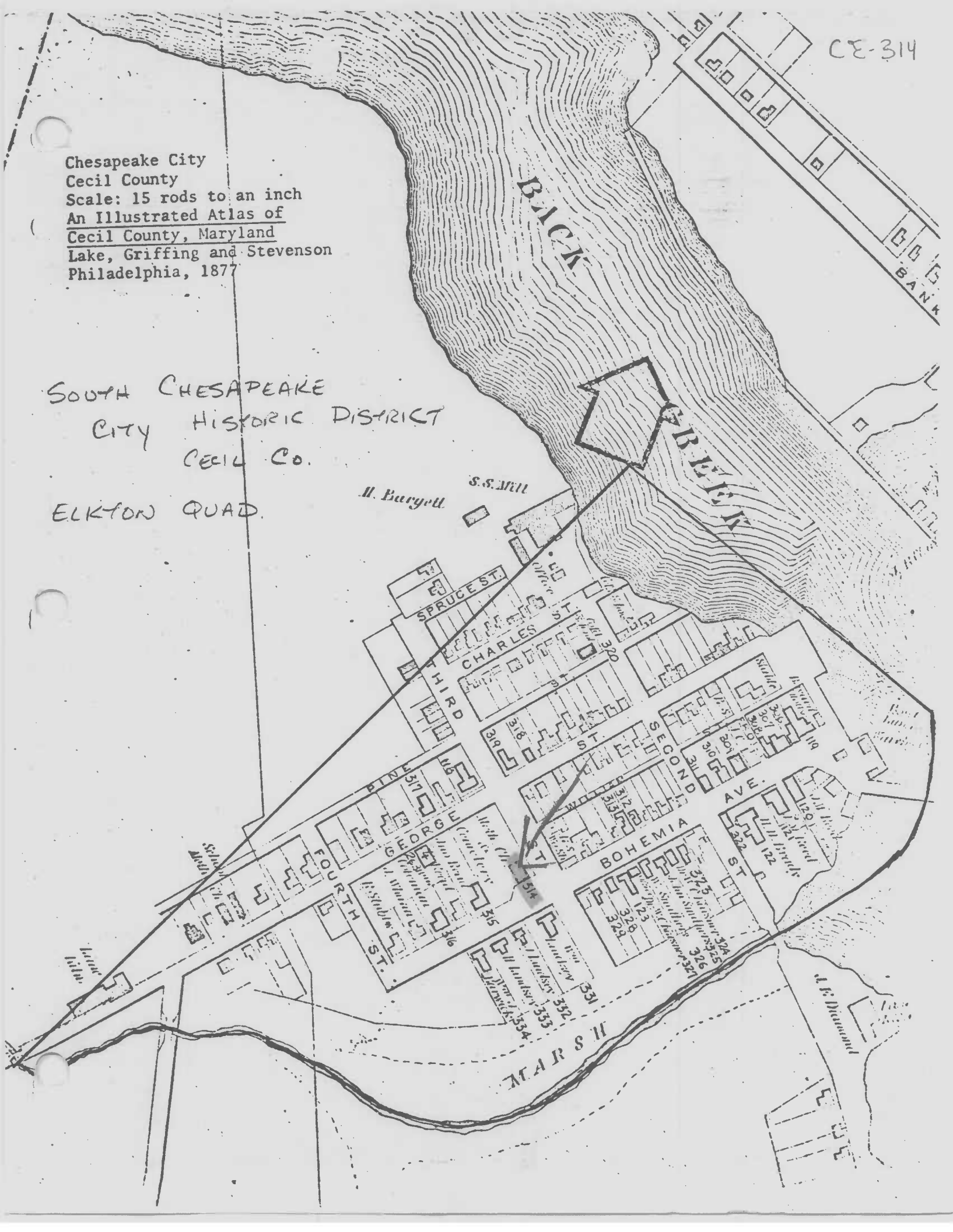
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Chesapeake City
Cecil County
Scale: 15 rods to an inch
An Illustrated Atlas of
Cecil County, Maryland
Lake, Griffing and Stevenson
Philadelphia, 1877

SOUTH CHESAPEAKE
CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT
CECIL CO.
ELKTON QUAD.





CE 314

Chesapeake City

Trinity Methodist Episcopal

Church Bk 7/73



CE 314

Chesapeake City

Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church

882 1/13



Trinity M.E. Church CE-314

Northwest

M. Bourne April 1976